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Charleston 26 May 1842

My dear Sir,

Your letter of the 20 ult. was received about the beginning of the month.

The following statement will I hope show you that my apparent want of punctuality in remitting the price of the Nos of the Flora sent me, was not arisen from negligence.

With Messrs Wiley and Putnam I have never had any communication, but with Dr. Torrey alone. In the autumn of 1838 I received 3 copies of the first two nos of Vol I. for ^{which} I remitted Dr. Torrey \$9 by Professor Shephard in Mar 1839, the receipt of which he has acknowledged. In the autumn of 1840 I received 2 additional copies of Nos 182 of Vol I, and 6 copies of Nos 384 of Vol I. making 5 complete copies of Vol I and an extra copy of Nos 384 sent by mistake. These 5 copies have been distributed to the 5 subscribers and the two extra numbers remain on my hands to be returned unless I obtain a subscriber for them. The ~~vol.~~ ^{vol.} appearing in 4 nos instead of 3 as stated in the prospectus, I was doubtful whether subscribers should be charged \$4.50 for the volume or \$1.50 a number and wrote to Dr. Torrey for information. He wrote me on the 6 April. 1841 (it is his last favor to me 13 months ago)

that the price was \$1.50 a number, and informed me that part 5th would be published in 3 weeks. In order to avoid remittances of small sums I of course waited to receive this part that I might remit the whole at once. I have never heard since from Dr. Torrey, nor received any more nos., although if I mistake not I have seen somewhere that the second vol. has been published.

I regret having thus unintentionally caused any dissatisfaction. It has given me pleasure, and will still give me pleasure, to serve yourself and Dr. Torrey in this way, and thus aid, as far as lies in my power, in promoting a favorite study. If you prefer however that the business should be placed in the hands of some bookseller here, be so good as to name some one in correspondence with Wiley & Putnam, and I will attend to it. The nos yet due, may be sent to the same person, or as before, directly to me by vessel, or through Sam. Hart Sen's Bookseller in this city.

Dr. Torrey told me in one of his letters that you would exchange with me; if you are still willing to do so, inform me in your next, and I will make a list of such plants as I desire and send it to you. If there is anything I can send you, let me know.

Do ask Dr. Torrey whether he ever received a package of plants I sent him by Prof. Shepard in

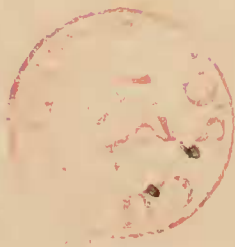
April 1841. It contained some plants of value much and I should be sorry to lose them.

I shall be glad to see your new text book of Botany. Of your former work I have had a glimpse of a single copy in one of our bookstores but have never been able to read it.

Yours very truly

Lewis R. Gibbs.

I shall be glad to hear from Dr. Torrey at his convenience. Explain this matter to him for me if you please.



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Dr. A. A. Gray

New York.

